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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Fire Retardant Resin Composition, Method of its Production, Shaped Articles Comprising the Same, and Silica**, the specification of which was filed on May 19, 2003, assigned International Patent Application No. PCT/JP03/06176, and which designated the United States.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me that is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56.

FOREIGN PRIORITY CLAIM

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Application Number	Country	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119
2002-151271	JP	24 May 2002	<u>X</u> Yes No <u> </u>
			<u> </u> Yes No <u> </u>

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint:

All practitioners at Customer Number 30678

Customer No. 30678

all of Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP, 1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036-3425, jointly, and each of them severally, my attorneys at law/patent agent(s), with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please mail all correspondence to Burton A. Amernick, whose address is:

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Second inventor's signature <u>Naoko Hirano</u>	Date DEC. 28. 2004
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